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# THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTIALLY

for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 25th of the month.

A. J. LAMOURÉUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a table of freights and charters, a summary of the daily coffee report from the Associação Commercial, and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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São Paulo and Santos.

RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 5th, 1888.

THE 63rd birthday anniversary of His Majesty the Emperor was celebrated on the 2nd instant with all the customary formalities. It was also celebrated by subjects and friends with a tenderness and solicitous good will which falls only to those on whom is resting the burdens of years and broken health. The Emperor had lived to a good old age with uniformly good health, and he had therefore never tested the affectionate solicitude of his people in this direction. He now knows how fully his sufferings have appealed to their hearts, and how earnestly their prayers have gone upward for the restoration of his broken health and strength. The past year has been an eventful one to him in many ways. He has once been very near the shadowy portals from beyond which no traveller ever returns. A great and peaceful revolution has also occurred in his own country which is destined to mark a new era in its history, and may open the way, if rightly used, to the greater development of wealth and happiness among his people. That his years may be prolonged to witness the good results of this great reform will be the sincere wish of the whole civilized world.

We are now passing through the successive stages of another "questão militar," which, like its predecessors, is likely to end in the further humiliation of the civil authority. The immediate cause of the controversy was a quarrel between two women of the town in one of the streets of São Paulo. A policeman undertook to repress the disturbance, when a cadet, accompanied by six soldiers, interfered and ordered the policeman to let the women alone. The dispute led to blows, in which the policeman received a severe beating and was taken to the barracks. Complaint was made to the chief of police by two citizens, and he at once went around to the barracks to inquire into the difficulty. He claims to have observed all the customary formalities, and his interview with the officer of the day was conducted quietly and courteously, except as to some cadets present who manifested their ignorance of the most ordinary rules of discipline by repeated interruptions. On the following day, an evening paper published a protest, signed by 19 officers, in which the chief of police was accused of forcing his way into the barracks and insulting the officers of the regiment. The language used was most violent, and the official attacked was characterized as unfit for the position held by him. The charges made have been categorically denied by the chief of police, and the indications are that his statement of the case is the correct one.

The antagonism aroused by this dispute culminated on the 24th in a collision between the police and the soldiers, the latter aided by a number of citizens who are always ready to attack the police authorities. The republican press had taken the part of the military and a popular manifestation to the officers was arranged for that evening, because the regiment had been recalled to Rio. A part of the crowd attacked the president's palace and office of the chief of police, while the neighboring streets were filled with small disorderly crowds. Finally a policeman fired upon a soldier with whom he had got into a quarrel, the crowd chased the policeman into a commercial house, and on his coming out, partly disguised, he was set upon and killed. A police force then appeared and fired upon the crowd, several soldiers and civilians receiving wounds. The 17th regiment was withdrawn the next day, and an inquiry was at once instituted, the result of which has been a justification of the officers of the regiment by the superior military officers and military club, and the resignation of the president of the province and chief of police.

SOME time ago a well-known journalist and historical authority of this city said that he is inclined to date an era in Brazilian history from the assassination of Apulcho de Castro. The high-handed character of that outrage, for which the military officers and their hired cutthroats easily escaped all responsibility, certainly drew attention to the weakness and supineness of the civil authorities before the military class. Since then two conflicts have occurred between the government and police authorities on the one side, and the military classes on the other, both developing great weakness and indecision on the part of the former, and rank insubordination and a spirit of aggression on the part of the latter. The surrender of the civil authorities in this São Paulo controversy must therefore be accepted as the practical overthrow of independent civil government in Brazil. The Emperor rules "by the grace of God," and the civil authorities will continue to serve and draw their salaries "by the grace of the army and navy." No one can say, however, that there is a stable civil government when a privileged class enforces its arbitrary will at pleasure, setting the law and its constituted authorities at defiance, inciting disorder and assassination, overthrowing ministers, presidents and police officials, intimidating cabinets with threats of seizure and confinement, meddling with politics and civil processes, and, through it all, holding itself exempt from arrest and responsibility before the common law of the land. There is no justice and no guarantee for life and property in such a state of affairs. Practically we are on the verge of a military dictatorship like that which has so long cursed the Platine republics, a regime made all the more possible and probable by the fatal blunder of the so-called republicans in defending and applauding the conduct of the military in these controversies. When the republic really comes, the republicans will be the first to feel the weight of the mailed hand, but it will then be too late.

THE acts of Brazilian fiscal authorities are so inscrutable that the denunciation of one more is but an ungrateful task. We may, however, venture to call the attention of the government to a case of manifest injustice and of so easy correction that, as it may lead to an increase of revenue, some steps will perhaps be taken to correct it. It is a well known fact that nearly every foreign steamship company trading to Brazil has been called upon to make deposits and

nominate responsible agents here. At the same time the whole "tramp" fleet of the world can enter this port as freely as the elements will permit, and requires neither deposit, nor responsible agents. The action of the fiscal authorities in obliging steamship companies to keep funds on deposit here, and also responsible agents, was intended to protect the interests of receivers of goods; for the freights being payable abroad, any claim for damage to cargo could only be recovered by a tedious law-suit here, or against the shippers, or steamers, at their home ports. And neither of these recourses was satisfactory to our consignees. Therefore the authorities acted only prudently in their attempt to correct a decreed evil. But these authorities did not provide for the appearance of wandering steamers which are increasing and which are quite free of the charges placed on regular lines, and this is what we complain of. The correction is simple in the extreme. Upon the entry of a steamer belonging to any line that has no recognized and responsible agent here, with cargo destined to this port, the consignee, or the master, should be obliged to sign a bond holding himself personally responsible for claims against the ship; and this formality should be insisted upon. It is absurd to oblige steamship companies, whose vessels are arriving almost daily, to lock up money, and guarantee their agents against possible claims, when any outsider may come in, discharge cargo, and if reclamations are made quietly inform consignees that they may claim at the home office! A case in point occurred recently; the *Diário Oficial* of the 26th ulto. contains a dispatch from the minister of agriculture to the government agent in Europe ordering him to immediately demand from the representatives of the steamship *Osmanti* the value of a case not delivered here and forming part of an order of material for the fire department. The government will get the claim, but a private individual would probably be told to collect on the curbstone.

It would seem that the province of Ceará is to again suffer a great drouth and famine. The failure of the annual rains and consequent destruction of pasture and crops has once more brought the people of that province face to face with starvation. They have been compelled to leave their homes in the interior and are now in great part collected together along the two lines of railway and in the cities of the coast where public assistance can be rendered them. Thousands are already employed on various public works and thousands more are now dependent wholly upon public relief. Hundreds have left the province for other localities, and the government is even granting free passages to such as wish to settle in other provinces. The outlook is a gloomy one, even with the slightly hopeful news that rains have fallen in one or two localities, for the people have abandoned their homes and have lost nearly everything. Even were the rains to come, it would be some time before they would be able to produce anything for their own support. In view of these periodically-recurring drouths, so fatal and costly in their results, it is incredible that the government has shown so little intelligent interest in measures of relief. The Quixadá job can hardly be considered such a measure, for it had the interests of the province less at heart than those of the parties who were to spend the money. It may be that no effectual remedy for these drouths will ever be found except at a cost far too great for the empire to meet, but there are certainly some comparatively inexpensive experiments that deserve a trial. One of these is the sinking of artesian wells, which have resulted so beneficially in other parts of the

world. The expense of a trial would certainly be trifling, providing an honest man is employed; and if successful a number of these could very quickly be sunk to meet the pressing needs of the refugees and their stock. In time these wells could be effectively used for irrigating purposes on a limited scale. Then in connection with these wells, tree-planting should be at once encouraged and aided. Fruit trees, which thrive so well in Ceará in normal years, should be very largely planted, and also other rapidly growing shade and timber-producing trees. In California a kind of pine has been successfully planted in the sandy belt along the coast and has been found highly useful to prevent the shifting of the sands. Relief measures of this character must be based upon definite and liberal plans and can only be successful when persisted in for a term of years. They are not popular with speculators, because they afford little chance for profit, but for these very reasons they are to be recommended to the government and to the people of Ceará. Instead of spending so much on relief every few years, why not anticipate the calamity by sinking artesian wells and mitigating its effects by new plantations of trees?

PERHAPS it will cool the fevered imaginations of our Argentine friends just a little to know that the enormous receipts of gold, which they are so fond of recording, are being supplemented by corresponding shipments when the special objects in view have been satisfied. It is not an unknown thing for a steamer to carry back to Europe the very boxes of sovereigns brought out, and with the seals on them unbroken. The importation of gold, aside from public and private loans, is generally the settlement of a favorable balance of payments, and is therefore essentially temporary in character. In a country whose paper currency is greatly depreciated and is constantly subject to rapid fluctuations, gold is used as a basis for calculations independently of paper values, and a certain amount is therefore always required to settle balances. This is especially true of a country whose manufactured goods are so largely imported as in the Argentine Republic. Speculators are therefore always on the lookout to meet commercial demands for coin, and no small part of these importations are due to their ventures. This is also to be considered as a temporary importation. The importations for account of banking reserves, however, are essentially different in character, but these are either obtained through the agency of loans, for which security must be given, or they are the product of exchanges or credit operations, and are therefore to be counterbalanced by entries in one form or another on the debit side of the public ledger. Gold does not flow into any pocket or country gratuitously and of its own free will; something must flow out to counterbalance it. To illustrate the point, we have taken the trouble to note the receipts of sovereigns in this market from the River Plate during the past month, which were as follows:

Per Elbe .. ..	£ 66,200
Leibnitz .. ..	30,000
Orénogue .. ..	4,000
Yagus .. ..	46,450
Araucania .. ..	1,000
Sorata .. ..	10,500
Provence .. ..	3,000
Pernambuco .. ..	20,000
Congo .. ..	59,000
Britannia .. ..	4,761
Galileo .. ..	12,000

Total .. £256,911

This is not an exceptional thing in this market, for sovereigns are constantly received here from foreign countries to meet

temporary demands, and they come quite as frequently and freely from the River Plate republics as from anywhere else. In fact, we are informed that at the present moment there is a profit of 3d. in the pound on sovereigns from the River over those imported from Europe. If now our Argentine colleagues will add to this quarter million the amount returned to Europe direct during the month of November, it will be found that the "enormous drain of gold from Europe" is something of a delusion. Europe might just as correctly draw attention to the "enormous drain of gold from South America." The plain truth is—and our Argentine friends will some day learn the lesson—that speculation and borrowing will make no country rich. A few individuals may profit from it, but they can do so only through another's loss. Labor is the only creator of wealth, and upon it rather than upon the Bolsa and spendthrift legislation must the Platine republics depend for their substantial progress. Advertising the receipts of gold and then ignoring the shipments of the same, may flatter the vanity of a few ignorant people and deceive a great many others, but it is a subterfuge that will not create real wealth nor ward off the always impending crash which the Argentines must experience every few years.

## COFFEE CLEANING.

40, Mincing Lane,  
London, 6th Nov., 1888.

To the Editor of the Rio News.

Dear Sir.—We were pleased to find our remarks, as to the policy of cleaning coffee from the parchment, printed in the *Rio News* of 5th ult.

That this system will ultimately become general can not be doubted, the gain to the farmer is far too important to be kept in the background, and yet there seems to be opposition from what are called "vested interests." As yet there is no apparent need, in any way, to clash with such interests; all that is desired is that coffee should be brought to the Rio market in the parchment, and that those traders who wish to buy the coffee in the *casquinha*, should be enabled to do so. In time it would be found that coffee in this state would command a relatively higher price, as the quality is better preserved the longer the coffee is retained in the parchment, and the system of cleaning pursued in consuming countries is such as to answer individual requirements. The nett returns to the grower also are sooner encashed than is now the case. At some future period no doubt, there seems no reason why coffee, like much other produce, might not be shipped in *bulk*, in lieu of in *bags*; and here no doubt vested interest would be interfered with, but commerce follows natural rules which can not be altered, and the inevitable changes will arise.

If you have space for these few lines we shall be glad, for although we have no direct coffee operations in the Brazils, still through friends here we have been closely connected with the trade for a long series of years.

We remain, Dear Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
JAMES COOK & CO.

The president of the province of Piahy has approved a law imposing a 5 per cent. export tax on all produce of the province. Up to the present only cotton paid the tax. Piahy may now be expected to make rapid progress!

—The *Liberal Minciro* of the 28th ult. published the tenders of the proposed loan of the province of Minas Geraes for 10,000,000\$ to be raised abroad. There were 8 tenders; one was at 85 per cent. for a 4½ per cent. loan, and the others were for 5 per cent. loans ranging from 91½ per cent. to 93. Conditions varied from ¼ per cent. to 2. The tenders have been sent to the provincial treasury officials, and no immediate decision is expected. Two parties asked for an extension of time that they might also tender.

## THE BUDGET.

In our last issue (November 24th) we published an abstract of the principal amendments to the budget, and may now show some of the larger items forming the estimates of the various departments.

Empire: total vote—9,228,321\$807.

Imperial family.....	1,090,000\$000
Subsidy to senators.....	540,000 000
Secretariat of Senate.....	179,900 000
Subsidy to deputies.....	750,000 000
Secretariat of Chamber.....	250,000 000
Mileage to deputies.....	45,000 000
Council of State.....	48,600 000
Secretariat of department.....	184,840 000
Presidents of provinces and mileage.....	294,703 333
Public worship and seminaries.....	879,850 000
Faculties, etc. of law schools.....	350,750 000
do. do. medical schools.....	757,320 000
do. do. Polytechnic school.....	204,712 000
School of Mines, Ouro Preto.....	82,800 000
Primary and higher instruction, central municipality.....	554,180 000
D. Pedro II College.....	509,660 000
Normal School.....	67,500 000
Academy of Fine Arts.....	87,550 000
Blind Asylum.....	91,953 000
Deaf and Dumb do.....	62,665 000
Destitute childrens' do.....	116,580 000
Imperial Observatory.....	93,300 000
National library and archives.....	102,000 000
Inspector general of hygiene.....	231,710 000
do. of ports.....	203,440 000
Lazarettos and hospitals.....	50,442 500
Public assistance.....	112,000 000
Street cleaning, watering, etc., in Rio de Janeiro.....	727,906 664
Public offices and works.....	400,000 000

Justice: total vote—7,680,612\$823.

Secretariat.....	141,070\$000
Supreme Court.....	169,642 000
Courts of Appeal.....	614,808 000
Juntas Commercias.....	80,504 000
Courts of 1st process.....	3,149,090 678
Police.....	2,823,809 615
Penitentiary and jail.....	232,101 030
Fernando Noronha, penal settlement.....	244,987 500
Beggars' Asylum.....	65,600 000

Foreign Affairs: total vote—771,706\$666.

Secretariat.....	153,165\$000
Legations and consulates (gold).....	517,675 000

This department shows a reduction in the estimates as voted, and is unique in this respect.

Marine: total vote—11,313,619\$125.

Secretariat.....	109,790\$000
Naval and Supreme Councils, etc.....	68,312 000
Administrative departments.....	210,560 500
Officers and seamen.....	1,929,788 000
Marine corps.....	141,058 460
Invalids and half-pay.....	283,919 990
Navy yards.....	2,595,375 475
Captains of ports.....	197,455 500
Naval force (ships?).....	1,508,500 000
Hospitals.....	183,092 700
Light-houses.....	294,828 500
Naval Academy.....	184,773 000
Naval stores, material and armament.....	1,300,000 000
Rations.....	1,500,000 000
Coals, improvements, repairs, etc.....	600,000 000

War: total vote—15,031,706\$173.

Secretariat.....	203,997\$000
Supreme Council, paymaster's department and intendencia.....	185,667 500
Military works.....	756,300 000
do. instruction.....	390,660 000
Arsenals, laboratories, etc.....	1,014,495 180
Medical staff, hospitals, etc.....	916,970 460
General staff.....	234,828 000
Special corps.....	855,072 000
Regimental corps and pay.....	3,868,064 630
Allowances, clothing, etc.....	4,999,022 430
Corps and barracks expenses.....	450,000 000
Military companies and commissions.....	434,156 490
Retired list (classe inactive).....	730,539 238

Agriculture: total vote—46,929,076\$686.

Secretariat.....	219,948\$000
Aid to various institutions, Flora Brasiliensis, etc.....	76,000 000
Aid to practical schools of agriculture, agronomic establishments, industrial and professional schools.....	408,000 000
Public gardens.....	36,300 000
Fire department.....	397,799 800
Public lighting.....	869,802 174
Interest guarantee to railways.....	8,221,254 815
D. Pedro II. railway.....	8,811,184 948
Sobral do.....	148,686 500
Batistide do.....	299,275 000
Paulo Afonso do.....	156,369 500
Recife and S. Francisco do. extension.....	684,213 800
Bahia and S. Francisco do. do.....	602,358 000
Porto Alegre and Urugayana do.....	817,993 409
Public works.....	3,761,081 500
Severage of Rio de Janeiro.....	2,164,780 000
Telegraph.....	2,468,160 000
Public lands, colonization and immigration.....	10,000,000 000
Catechesis of Indians.....	220,000 000
Subsidy to navigation companies.....	2,736,800 000
Post Office.....	2,986,313 440
Yanguana mines and foundry.....	205,175 800
National museum.....	72,280 000
Interest guarantee to central sugar factories.....	500,000 000

The estimated sum payable to the railways enjoying an interest guarantee appears to include the Bahia and Pernambuco lines.

Finance: total vote—62,193,390\$727.

Service of foreign debt.....	19,148,077\$000
do. loans of 1868 and 1879.....	6,061,825 000
do. domestic loans.....	19,090,209 000
Redemption bureau.....	184,392 000
Pensions, half-pay, etc.....	2,994,802 449
National Treasury.....	642,424 666
Treasury agencies.....	1,031,330 600
Court of process.....	133,207 500
Custom-houses.....	4,748,117 278
Internal revenue agencies.....	471,380 000
Other fiscal agencies.....	1,497,935 500
National printing office and Diario Oficial.....	186,000 000
Differences in exchange.....	455,992 000
Interest on deposits, Treasury bills, etc.....	600,000 000
Old debts.....	2,678,000 000
Advance to Bahia and Pernambuco railways, 2½ per cent. provincial guarantees.....	918,845 426

Table C:—Provides for the following:

Surveying the dowry lands of the Princesses.....	450,000 000
Extension of Bahia and S. Francisco railway.....	18,000\$000
do. Recife and Caruaru railway.....	1,750,000 000
Puerto Alegre and Cacequi railway.....	3,000,000 000
Bagé and Urugayana do.....	6,000,000 100
D. Pedro II railway extensions.....	3,000,000 000
Batistide railway extension.....	1,000,000 000
Tianguá branch of Bahia and S. Francisco railway.....	156,375 000
Mogiana railway extension.....	354,730 000
Interest guarantee on Cabello extension of Conde d'En railway.....	35,563 799
Interest guarantee on Ceará harbor improvements.....	175,227 014
Rio de Janeiro water works.....	979,734 000
Interest guarantees on new concessions.....	2,000,000 000
Extension of Sulral railway.....	800,000 000

## PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—On the 20th ult. a telephone line between Rio Grande do Sul (city) and Pelotas was inaugurated.

—The October receipts of the Amazonas custom house amounted to 111,168\$833, and the provincial *recebidos* 150,754\$593.

—The exports of rubber from Pará during the month of October amounted to 1,104,800 kilos., of all qualities.

—There were 260 deaths in Pará during the month of October, of which 127 were from small-pox, 9 from *beriberi*, and 6 from yellow-fever. Of the total, 130 were reported as illigent persons.

—Amazonas papers say that the farmers are so afraid of the press-gangs that they no longer come to market, and the price of cereals has much advanced.

—The *Correio Official* of Guyaz says that 8 diamond hunters were recently killed by Indians at the junction of the Rio Barreiros with the Araguaya. They were killed with clubs, and their bodies horribly mutilated.

—On the 23rd ult. work was commenced at Petropolis on the sewerage and gas works, and the opening of a street to connect Rinas Joinville and Visconde do Bom Retiro. The concessionaires are Messrs. Miranlola, Benest and Percy Goto.

—Another good man gone wrong! A Rio Grande telegram of the 26th ult. says that the administrator of the *Jaguariú meca de renhas*, Capt. José Bernardino Vargas, has skipped over the border into Uruguay, leaving a deficit of 7,500\$ in his cash balance.

—The *Journal do Commercio* of the 26th ult. says the chief of police of the province of Minas Geraes, for the purpose of regulating public safety, has sent out lists of criminals containing 6,000 names. Are all the inhabitants of Minas criminals, or only those of the principal towns?

—Another mysterious disappearance is reported from Curitiba, Paraná, a man named Igayará suddenly disappearing from a hotel there and leaving no trace of his destination or whereabouts. These disappearances appear to be growing fashionable recently. Will the *Pais* try another subscription?

—We omitted to mention in our last that the students at Ouro Preto, Minas Geraes, had also been asserting themselves. Some 200 of them got together and hooted the vice-president and the inspector of public instruction. The month of November appears to have been a trying one for the academic liver.

—“The *Folha de Minas* says that on the plantation of Sr. João David, district of Catagnazes, there is a cuck with a fleshy tail resembling that of a dog. At the extremity of this peculiar protuberance, says the same journal, a perfect foot of a fowl agitates itself.”—*Nevidades*, 28th Nov. No charge for this notice.

—It is proposed to establish a cotton mill at Caeté, province of Bahia, and it is claimed that with the raw material at hand, the new mill can successfully oppose the importation of goods from Minas. By all means, let us have cotton mills all over the country, and then the city mills will want just a little more protection.

—The November receipts of the Santos custom house amounted to 1,245,993\$167.

—Two more individuals were arrested in Santos on the 27th ult. on the charge of passing counterfeit money.

—The exports from Pará in October were valued at 1,865,062\$285, of which rubber represented 1,815,535\$145.

—The Pará court of appeals (*relatório*) has held a district judge (of Cametá) answerable to 103 actions. It is a political case.

—There were 639 head of cattle killed for the good people of Santos last month. But the port improvements contract sleeps on just the same.

—A telegram from São Paulo on the 2nd says that the president of the province, Dr. Pedro Vicente, had resigned. The chief of police has also resigned.

—The sum of 114,630\$ is to be divided among various benevolent associations of the province of Rio de Janeiro. This amounts represents the nett profits of provincial lotteries.

—We repeat S. Paulo is grand in everything. A *Batatas* journal says that a man killed four of his fellow-beings at Franca on the 17th ult. Most people would have been satisfied with one.

—Burglars have invaded Petropolis, where the police force is said to consist of 6 soldiers. The high-toned inhabitants of this fashionable summer resort are threatening to use their revolvers. It will probably remain a threat.

—There are a hundred Italian families in the Juiz de Fora *hospedaria* who refuse to sign contracts with the planters. They were told in Italy that the Brazilian government would give them lands gratuitously, and they had no intention to enter the service of planters here.

—The *Diário Mercantil* of S. Paulo published on the 29th the satisfactory results secured by Dr. Antonio Bento in conciliating the journalists of that important capital. He, Dr. Antonio Bento, gave them an excellent dinner, and then asked the pugnacious journalists to kiss and be friends. And they did.

—The vice-president of the province of Amazonas has contracted for the illumination of the town of Manaus. The contractor is to make valuable contributions to establishments of instruction in the town, the inhabitants of which are likely to pay these same contributions. We have our own opinions of enforced philanthropy.

—A local journal says that a Rio de Janeiro provincial colleague states that bank-notes of 200\$ had appeared at a place called Cordeiros. The appearance of this money has apparently alarmed the natives, but the notes were probably counterfeits. Either this, or the Rio de Janeiro planters have not seen a 200\$ note for so long that it produces syncope.

—The president of the province of Ceará is said to have collected data, ancient and modern, upon which he bases an estimate that the population of the province is 932,254 souls. The estimate is further that 150,000 died or emigrated during the 1877-79 drought. Were not the estimate almost purely speculative, the exactness of the figures would challenge admiration.

—The *Liberal Minciro*, published in Ouro Preto, Minas Geraes, recently stated that the commandant of a police detachment in the province had sent 4 soldiers in irons and on foot 50 leagues, say 200 miles, from Diamantina to Ouro Preto, under a blazing sun. The commandant was suspicious of the escort, and sent the keys of the handcuffs by mail. The state of these unfortunate policemen can be imagined on arrival at the end of their journey.

—If it were not so serious, the action of the military in regard to the S. Paulo controversy would make a roaring farce. The officer of the day who received the chief of police is very deaf, and he got angry only after the chief left and some meddling cadets told him some apparent falsehoods about the conversation. On his flimsy foundation 19 officers (who were nearly all absent) signed a solemn protest, and the Club Militar in Rio as solemnly voted its adhesion.

—A victim of the abolition law at Jundiahy, S. Paulo, says that he lost 73 slaves by the law, and therefore proposes that his creditors are to take off one-half of their claims, and give him five years to pay the rest, during which no interest will be paid. Now, we consider this solves the question of aid to agriculture. Let Barão de Catagay propose a law based on Sr. Antonio José da Costa Wilk's petition to the judge at Jundiahy, and he will probably secure that *summa bonum*, a satisfied planting class.

—At a place called Minas Novas, in the province of Minas Geraes, a gentleman employed a friend to kill an orphan girl. The murder does not seem to have come off, and possibly the gentleman tried not pay his friend. Any how, the assassin tried to kill his principal and was arrested. The *Journal do Commercio* of the 26th ult. tells this pretty story, but does not say whether the attempt to kill the girl, or to kill his employer, is most against the criminal. We opine the last, a man who is employed to do a job, and does not execute his contract, has no claim for compensation. Kill the orphan every time!



## RAILROAD NOTES

—The Minas and Rio railway has been permitted to lay one kilometre of its line with steel sleepers, as an experiment.

—On the 19th ult. the fiscal engineer of the São Paulo railway was informed that the company must take the necessary steps to avoid reclamations for short delivery of merchandise.

—On the 19th ult. the minister of agriculture authorized the Quarahim and Itaquy, Rio Grande do Sul, railway to reduce the passenger tariffs to 48 per cent. of present rates.

—Decree No. 3,402, dated November 24th, sanctions the payment of 350,000 francs to the *Compagnie Générale de Chemins de Fer Brésiliens*, interest for twelve months, July 1883 to July 1884.

—Complaints are being made of the state in which the old Trjaca road has been left by the parties who started to build a railway up to that point. Why has the work been stopped? If it was begun only to save the concession, cannot some way be found to compel its completion?

—It now transpires that the English syndicate has had no intention whatever of paying the Leopoldina shareholders the seven millions in cash asked for that system of lines, watered stock and all. The directors will probably have to bear their humbles a little while longer, or else modify their demands.

—The traffic returns of the S. Paulo and Rio for the third quarter of the present and last year are:

	1888	1887
Receipts.....	389,381,835	320,161,670
Expenses.....	195,585,821	211,821,653

Balances..... 193,795,574 108,340,837

—The Mariá railway in the province of Rio de Janeiro, the first section of which, about 16 kilometres, was inaugurated on the 26th ult., will have a total extension of about 39 kilometres. The gauge is .76 metre, and the cost is estimated at about 14,000\$ per kilometre. The capital of the company is 200,000\$, besides which there is a debt-entire debt.

—The August traffic receipts of the Sorocabana railway (trunk line) amounted to 59,107\$640, and the expenditures to 33,088\$826, leaving a balance of 26,018\$814. The receipts show an increase of 578\$240 over the same month of last year, while the expenses show a decrease of 2,610\$607. The receipts of the extension were 24,619\$800 and the expenses 14,623\$513, showing a surplus of 9,996\$287.

—The first concession under the recent law was granted simultaneously with the approval of the law. Decree No. 10,090 dated on the 24th ult., grants the Sorocabana railway 74 years privilege for a railway from Tatuhy to the boundaries of Paraná, and an interest guarantee of 6 per cent. on this extension and on that from Botucatu to the Paranapanema river, on 30,000\$ per kilometre, for 30 years we presume. The conditions of the concession are too long for transcription, but as they are likely to serve as the model for future concessions under the new law they should be carefully examined by those who propose tendering for other lines under this law.

—We gather from the Great Western of Brazil meeting that the directors have drawn up a protest, addressed as an appeal to the Emperor, respecting the novel claim of the Brazilian government to convert the 7 per cent. per annum guarantee into a guarantee of 3½ per cent. per half year. By that process, he said the government could claim the benefit which might arise in one half of the year, leaving the company to bear the loss in the other. It is nothing short of a shabby trick, quite unworthy of any government with a character to lose.—*Horvath's Journal*, Oct. 27th. The great error of the company seems to us to be that it has addressed the Brazilian government; the British legation in Rio was the proper recipient of protests against any and all such pretensions on the part of Brazilian government officials.

—At the meeting of the shareholders of the Leopoldina railway held on the 29th ult., the president of the company explained that the negotiations with the British syndicate had failed. The syndicate offered a small sum in cash and the balance of the purchase money in shares of the company to be formed, but this was refused as the directors was not authorized to modify the conditions of the sale of the road passed by a previous meeting of the shareholders. The directors therefore considered the negotiations closed, which appears to have been acquiesced in by the syndicate, and offered the shareholders the following project: The capital to be the same as marked by Art. 6 of the statutes, represented by shares of 200\$, or £22 for sterling; the 68,000 paid-up shares will be considered preferred up to 6 per cent. for participation in the dividends of the company; the 182,000 shares represented by real estate, objects (*concessões*) and privileges, according to the estimates made by the appraisers and accepted by the shareholders, will be considered ordinary and will receive any excess of dividend over that due on the preferred, enjoying, however, all other rights due to the shareholders. In the case of liquidation, after the payments of the debts, the balance will be divided among the shareholders as follows: up to 200\$ for the preferred shares, and to the same amount from the excess for the ordinary, any balance remaining to be equally divided. The proposal was passed with two amendments, one providing that any excess over 6 per cent. on the ordinary shares would be equally divided between the two series, and the other granting one vote in each holder of 100 ordinary shares.

## LOCAL NOTES

—The British gunboat *Sveallan* entered port on the 3rd inst.

—The British gunboat *Flamengo* arrived in port from Bahia on the 2nd inst.

—The Swedish corvette *Saga*, from Plymouth, arrived in port on the 2nd inst.

—The Bange cannon, with accessories and projectiles, recently acquired by the government, cost 99,520 francs.

—A question for philologists has at least reached Rio. If "patrimony" is what one inherits from his father, may not "matrimony" be the inheritance from one's mother?

—The liquidation of the "Força e Luz" company is not at all a surprise. Rio has not yet reached that point where industrial novelties of this character are likely to prove successful.

—Telegrams received here on the 27th ult., announced the death of the President of the Swiss Republic. The foreign legations and consulates hoisted their flags at half-mast.

—The little city of Pará is now burying an average of 5 or 6 small-pox victims a day. And yet, the Emperor thinks the sanitary condition of the country tolerably satisfactory.

—It required two days to pray for the souls of defunct benefactors and members of the brotherhood of the Misericórdia. Whether the number of these, or their iniquity, required so much prayer is not reported.

—The Brazilian government has officially notified the United States government that this empire will be represented at the international maritime congress to be opened at Washington on April 17th next.

—The well-known manufacturers of fine furniture, Moreira Carvalho & Co., opened a special exhibition of their products at the S. Paulo de Alcantara theatre on the 29th ult. We are under obligations to the courteous invitation sent us.

—The panorama of Rio de Janeiro, by Victor Meireles, which has been on exhibition in Brussels, is now to be seen in Paris. Visitors to the exposition next year will have a chance to see how well we look on canvas.

—An extremely comprehensive trade mark was recently registered here. It covers linen and jute goods, silks, woollens and woolen cloths, machinery of every description, and machines for agriculture and horticulture.

—The *Cabral*, a new steamer for the southern ports service maintained by the Liverpool, Brazil and River Plate Co., arrived here from Liverpool on the 26th ult. Four steamers are now employed in this service.

—It is reported that a commission of investigation will be appointed to examine into charges of insubordination on the part of the crew of the gunboat *Affonso Celso*, when stationed at Santos. Sailors and soldiers seem restless in Brazil.

—It is said that the illustrious tribune, Lopes Trovão, is not in agreement with the methods and plans of the other illustrious tribune, Silva Jardim. We sincerely trust that the fate of the republic is not wholly dependent upon the pacification of these two leaders.

—The government has appointed Deputy Andrade Figueira to represent Brazil at the Montevideo conference on international law. The illustrious advocate of human slavery will arrive just in time to assist the conference to close its session on international rights.

—The 17th battalion of infantry, which has been getting into a row with the police of São Paulo, arrived at Realengo on the 26th, destined for the Campo Grande barracks. The "republicans" who had gathered at the station to give them a manifestation, were grievously disappointed.

—It appears that the chief of police of the province of Rio de Janeiro and the commandant of the provincial police force both live in the city of Rio. At least this is the reason ascribed for their not putting in an appearance at a considerable fire in Niteroi on the night of the 22nd ult.

—A Belgian surveyor recently offered his services to the government, but the minister of agriculture replied that "national industry" had quite supplied the demand for this article. The minister might have added that the future of Brazil was immense and the Flamengo might wait awhile.

—Now that the police authorities have taken to deporting *cafetins* again, may we not ask what has been done with that estimable young man who seduced some two or three young girls and left two of them locked up in a wretched unfurnished room in a *cortice* of this city? We wish to see how impartial Brazilian justice is.

—The *Gazeta da Tarde* [27th] is highly impressed with the energy and justice of the minister of empire in deciding that *aguardente* may be deposited in any *traphique* offering the necessary security. Now colleague, to be consistent let us see your spirit in claiming the same privileges for kerosene, rosin, and many other articles of like character!

—Two fires and a burglary in one establishment within three weeks should attract the attention of the police.

—Work on the levelling of the Senado hill was formally inaugurated on the 25th ult. The earth is to be used in filling in the swamps and *mangues* of Praia Fumosa.

—Somebody with more money than sense recently left 9,000\$ in government bonds in a shop here. He will recover his property, of course, but does not deserve it.

—That Benlengô meteorite has got home at last. It left the marine arsenal on the 26th ult. and reached the national museum on the 27th in the afternoon.

—Among the exports in the first fortnight of last month was a monkey, bound for Portugal, valued at 15\$, and which paid the custom house 750 rs. for duties.

—The *Immigração*, heretofore printed on good paper, has recently begun to use common news paper. And yet, no one ventures to enter a protest against the extortionate duties on good printing paper!

—Chinese labor importation has received its death blow. M. Levasseur, a member of the Institute of France, has declared against it, and who could possibly be hardy enough to oppose such an opinion?

—A lieutenant of the 1st battalion of infantry complained to the police on the 29th ult. that he had been run over by a cow. The Club Militar should have at once taken action in this matter. The *brics* of the army are compromised.

—Of 80 seamen quartered on the corvette *Bahiana* in harbor, 8 were sent to hospital on the 28th ult. suffering from *beriberi*. The sanitary condition of the vessel appears to be a great deal worse than unsatisfactory.

—On the 20th ult., the minister of agriculture declared to the municipal chamber that the contract for opening a tunnel between the Ruas da Gramma and Saule was approved, except as to the clause permitting a train service through the tunnel.

—We regret to register the death on the 26th ult. of Mrs. Andrew Steele, the wife of one of Rio's oldest and most respected British merchants. Mrs. Steele died at the advanced age of 76 years. Our sincere sympathy is tendered Mr. Steele and his family.

—The actual epidemic of morality that forbids gamblers at the law school in S. Paulo to take the oath so easily swallowed by the very men who now profess to be their lenders, is amusing. Swear at everybody and everything, young men, and then do like your republican colleagues; go back on your swearing!

—On the 25th ult. 24 convicts were received here from Ouro Preto, Minas Geraes, to work on the Poor House improvements. What are our beggars doing all day long in the streets? And why not avail of this material together with vagabonds and loafers generally? A fortnight's hard work would relieve Rio of a good part of its floating population.

—There were 9,463 immigrant arrivals at this port in the month of November, of which 7,558 were Italians, 1,167 Portuguese, 284 Belgians, 246 Spaniards, 120 Germans, and the rest of diverse nationalities. This increases the arrivals since January 1st to 44,397. The November departures for foreign ports numbered 848. The November arrivals at Santos have not yet been received.

—Sr. Nery, inspector-general of illumination, in his report dated on the 12th ult. (but only published in the *Diário Oficial* of the 26th) just knocks the whole bottom out of the complaints of senators as to their gas bills. There never has been a man as hard worked as Sr. Nery, nor a gas company as well managed as the present. At least that is the deduction we make from the report.

—The army, says the Club Militar, requires the dismissal of the São Paulo chief of police, as the only measure calculated to pacify its offended *brics*. And the civilian, should he the reply, demands the immediate punishment of that calet who, with 6 soldiers, interfered with a policeman in the discharge of his duty, as the only satisfaction of law and good order. Let us have an equitable division of responsibilities.

—When the minister of justice went to visit the poor people's home on Ilha do Governador on the 25th ult., one of the mendicants showed sufficient funds to carry him back to his native land, Portugal. We wonder how many more of these mendicants are waiting, not to accumulate funds to take their home, but to get a sufficiency which, invested in Portuguese *insuficiências*, will render them independent of misplaced charity?

—O *Pauz* has been trying to scare the inhabitants of Rio into fits. All the mules and horses that have had "colds in their noses" are declared to suffer from glanders, and a family that chose to eat *frustrated* meat, and in consequence became ill, is yet another proof of the dangers surrounding us. We sincerely trust the River Plate republics will quarantine all stammers from Rio; glanders is not a disease one plays with, and when denounced by the first journal of South America, it is time to get your house in order.

—The *Pauz* says that the public garden in the Praça d'Aclamação is becoming the largest chicken yard in the city. The "grotto" ought to make a lovely hen-coop.

—The chief-cook on half-pay of the palace notified the inhabitants of Rio on the 16th that he gets up the little banquets offered by Prince Pedro to his friends, and that they are not supplied by pastry-cooks.

—The minister of Portugal has recently presented six dozen of old Port wine to the D. Pedro II insane asylum. Would it not have been better to send it to sound and healthy people with good palates?

—A foreign exchange, in noticing the death of a gentleman, adds the following: "Much sympathy will be felt for Mrs. —, twice a widow within, so short a time, her first husband, Mr. —, having died a few years ago, etc." The notice seems to have been written seriously, too.

—A painter recently addressed a circular to the various municipal chambers asking for contributions to execute a grand picture to commemorate the abolition law. The first two replies were recently received and the contributions reached 76\$. It will require a very large number of municipalities at this rate to complete the sum required.

—Several of the manufacturing firms who are to take part in the Brazilian representation at Paris next year, are now organizing private exhibits of their products. Among these is the firm of Freitas Soares & Rocha, dealers in and manufacturers of fine boots and shoes, who have courteously invited our attention to their exhibit at No. 11 Rua dos Ourives.

—The government has conferred the distinction of "grande dignitário" in the Order of the Rose on Dr. Robert H. Gunning, of Palmeiras, for services rendered in connection with the Lyceu de Artes e Officinas of this city. Dr. Gunning has taken a very active interest in the welfare of this beneficent institution and has contributed liberally for its support.

—It is said that the husband of the poor woman who committed suicide a few days ago by saturating her clothes with kerosene and then setting fire to them, was accustomed to bring his mistresses home with him and then compel his wife, a bride of only a few months, to wait upon them like a servant. If the reports are true, the neighbors of the brute should not wait one minute for the police.

—On the 26th ult. at night the police attempted to raid a high life gambling shop. The door-keeper was too quick for the authorities and closed the door. Whereupon the police besieged the establishment and on the next day captured the door-keeper—the "gamblers" having retired. A local journal says the door-keeper was released because of a letter from a high and mighty personage, whose name is very improperly withheld.

—An amateur has proved to the satisfaction of a reporter of *O Pauz* that he can open nearly all the boxes at our post-office without any more formidable instrument than his finger. The journal in question publishes the statement on the 26th ult. and it is only natural to suppose that steps have been at once taken to prevent professionals from interfering with the mails. Perhaps the facility with which letters and documents can be stolen has something to do with the innumerable complaints against the post-office.

—It seems probable that the chief immigrant station will be removed from the Ilha das Flores, across the bay, to Ponta do Cajá on this side. There have been very considerable sums of money spent at the Flores station, and it would seem impossible that it is to be entirely abandoned. That it may not meet the demands of the increased number of immigrants is possible, but temporary arrangements could be organized, or there is something wrong in forwarding immigrants to their destinations.

—An old friend of Mr. W. J. Hammond, inspector of the Paulista railway, S. Paulo, writes us concerning a recent article on abolition from that gentleman's pen: "An article in a recent number of the *Nineteenth Century* suggests to us that Walter J. Hammond has considered it the best policy not to avail himself of the act of emancipation." We have not had the opportunity of reading the article in question, but would suggest to our critical correspondent that so sudden a change can not be expected from our S. Paulo railway friend. Mr. Hammond once believed all sorts of evil would arise from abolition.

—A candidate for medical honors, senior, was sent back by the examiners recently. His colleagues have declared that "they will not play any more" and have withdrawn the picture containing their "mugs" from a shop in the Rua do Ouvidor, and decline to have any sandwiches when diplomas are conferred. The decision is not altogether objectionable. There are a few things quite as exciting to a quiet man as that of seeing candidates for a doctor's title and an emerald ring going around the streets in black silk gowns, and caps with ostrich feathers stuck in the elge. Gowns and caps were hired frequently.

318,921	bags.	
The vessels cleaned with coffee are:		
<i>United States:</i>		<i>bags.</i>
22	New York Br str <i>Lassel</i> .....	24,912
22	New Orleans Br str <i>Seymour</i> .....	17,113
24	New York Ger str <i>Pradici</i> .....	28,990
30	do Br str <i>Philo</i> .....	18,388
30	do " " <i>Ptolemy</i> .....	19,336
30	Baltimore Amer bg <i>Allice</i> .....	







